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AP US History

Chapter 2 Questions

**1) How were the Caribbean colonies significant in the British-American colonial system?**

Toward the beginning of the seventeenth century, the Caribbean island had become the most significant destination for English immigrants in the Americas, along with the Northern station of Bermuda. The Caribbean colonies had been substantially the most influential aspect in the development of the mainland colonies of the New World. The Spanish Empire at this time had claimed title to Cuba, Hispaniola, and Puerto Rico; this causing the English, French, and Dutch traders to start settling on the surrounding lands and make use of the area as a trading zone with the smaller islands. The war between Spain and the Netherlands in 1621 had caused the English spread of colonization to increase due to the unauthorized exploration of the islands as a means of Spanish war preoccupations. In turn, by the mid seventeenth century England had established significant colonies in the Caribbean, these including Antigua, St. Kitts, Jamaica, and Barbados, all of which were subjected to constant invasion and battle by the Spanish, Portuguese, French, Dutch, and the natives of the Caribbean. The settlement in the Caribbean colonies had exposed the English to new economically rich crops such as tobacco, sugar, cotton, and sugar cane (which allowed for the creation of the rum trade), which increased the European economic and commercial growth immensely. With the rise of new labor intensive plantations, the beginning of the enslaved African American workforce arose, due to the white mans burden of the unwillingness to endure coerced labor. The Caribbean colonies exposed the English economies to the beginning of what was to become the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, and new commercially beneficial products such as sugar cane, tobacco, and cotton.

**2) How did the Glorious Revolution impact the development of the British-American colonies?**

Once James II of England had been “peacefully” overthrown from office in 1688, his heir’s two protestant women, Mary and Anne, had become joint sovereigns, this in which would become known as the Glorious Revolution. The Glorious Revolution had tremendously impacted the development of the British-American colonies within the New World, altering the course of its creation in multiple ways. Representative assemblies within the colonies had been revived and because of this colonial unification, had been successfully put to an end. The majority of the rules and regulations within the colonies had been altered under the rule of Mary and Anne, were as the English government recognized that the colonist were needed to be given some input into the policies that directly affected them. Although the Glorious Revolution allowed for a mere demonstration of colonial freedom, it was in no sense a government in complete administration of itself. Many attempts by the states to receive charters to create royal colonies had been denounced. In some sense the Glorious Revolution had evoke uprisings in colonies such as New York, and Maryland that had revolved around religious and factional divisions within the colony that would help rid the over arching rule of England within the colony. Ironically, the elimination of the short lived British rule had only led to an imperialist system stricter than ever before.Location of the colony.

**3) What were conditions like in Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony?**

The Puritan Massachusetts Bay Colony , governed by John Winthrop had transformed itself into a colonial government, that was highly based around the importance of the church. The Massachusetts Bay Colony had become a **theocracy**, or “ a society in which the line between the church and the state was very hard to see“, that was highly revolved around congregational churches, and governmental protection of ministers, and the church as an entire entity. Colonist were taxed and forced into consistent attendance of religious events; the society as a whole had come to support little to no religious freedom. Physical conditions of the Massachusetts Bay colony mainly concerned harsh winters (one third of the population was wiped out in the first winter), exchanges in food, crops, and various other trading goods, family oriented lifestyles, as well as strong religious and political hierarchies that reflected the basis of everyday social life. This particular society impacted America and its future systems/values to a significant extent; in many cases the colonist of Mass Bay interacted positively with the natives of the colony in contrast to other colonies such as in the Chessapeak region.

**4) How did the Navigation Acts and the Dominion of New England plant the earliest seeds of the American Revolution?**

The Navigation Acts, along with the Dominion of New England stand, considerably as the basis of the colonial outbreak in rebellious ambitions toward the English motive within the American colonies, this which would soon outline the framework of the American Revolution. The Navigation Acts had intended to regulate colonial commerce through three strict regulations: close colonial trade involving only items carried in English ships (1660), taxation of exported goods(1663), and appointed officials to regulate the act through watchman alongside the costal trading areas. On the other hand, the Dominion of New England under the establishment of James II, successor of his brother Charles II, had combined the New England colonies with Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey in 1688; thus asserting further condensed control within the New World. Edmund Andros had been appointed single ruler of all the colonies, after the prior assemblies had been diminished. Under the severe restrictions of the Navigation Acts and the Dominion of New England, colonist-had felt un-voiced, overpowered, and controlled; all the reason for the beginning of the American Revolution and the colonial desire for freedom of authority. The English in this case had began to abuse there authority to whole new levels, condemning harsher rules, regulations, and an English, mercantile governmental system in America; this which began to evoke serious remorse and frustrations amongst the colonial settlers.